

## **International Law Curriculum Planning**

### **How to Use This Guide**

Students interested in an international practice should consider following the guidance set forth in this Curriculum Planning document, which identifies classes that would be helpful for each of three separate practice pathways: international business law, international environmental law, and international human rights law. Many classes relevant to each pathway are part of the International Law curriculum. Others involve purely domestic matters but are included because they provide core knowledge or skills that could be readily applied in the relevant international practice area.

It is important to keep in mind that students can focus their studies in one of these areas without pursuing the International Law Certificate, or vice versa, although it is also possible to pursue both simultaneously. Students seeking to obtain the Certificate may be required to take at least one course outside the focus area. To facilitate cross-referencing with the Certificate Description, courses within each focus area below are marked with a different typeface to indicate their relationship to the Certificate:

- a. COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE CERTIFICATE.
- b. *COURSES THAT COUNT TOWARD THE CERTIFICATE BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED.*
- c. Courses that are recommended for future practitioners in this area but that do not count toward the Certificate.

### **Focus on International Business Law**

International business law is an extension of more traditional areas of business law, introducing additional layers of legal and cultural complexity. International practitioners are required to be familiar not only with state and federal law, but also international and foreign law. Moreover, their clients typically consist not only of domestic individuals or companies, but also foreign ones, whether private or governmental. International practitioners may engage in either transactional matters or dispute resolution, or both, and may encounter such diverse areas of the law as international sales of goods, trade law, international investment law, intellectual property law, antitrust law, and international arbitration. Negotiation, planning, and drafting skills are also critical to such a practice. If you are interested in pursuing a career in international business law, contact Professor George Foster (foster@lclark.edu 503-768-6822) for further information.

Take these courses during your second year:

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS (3)

Business Associations I (3)

Take these courses sometime:

Business Associations II (3)  
INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (3)  
Intellectual Property Survey (3)  
LEGAL RESEARCH: INTERNATIONAL & FOREIGN (1)

Consider taking one or more of these courses sometime:

Advanced Contracts: Sales & Leasing (3) or Advanced Contracts: Commercial Transactions (3)  
Alternative Dispute Resolutions (3)  
Antitrust Law (3)  
Contract Drafting (2)  
Copyright Law (3)  
Energy Law (3)  
*INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW* (2)  
*INTERNATIONAL TAX (2 CREDITS)*  
*LAW OF GLOBAL LABOR MARKETS* (3)  
Patent Law & Policy (2)  
PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (3)  
Secured Transactions (3)  
Sustainability Law & Business (2)  
Trademark & Unfair Competition Law (3)

### **Focus on International Environmental Law**

International environmental law draws on principles and customary law, as well as environmental treaties between two or more nation-States. While international environmental law must be implemented through domestic legislation in almost all situations, the practice of international environmental law differs substantially from a domestic environmental law practice. For example, the typical international environmental lawyer will likely never litigate any cases in state or federal court involving environmental laws. Instead, most international environmental lawyers will spend significant amounts of time in conference rooms of the world

negotiating new rules to implement existing environmental treaties or negotiating new international agreements. Rarely, they may litigate cases in front of international tribunals such as the International Court of Justice or the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. Lawyers in this field may work for governments, international institutions such as the United Nations Environmental Program, nongovernmental organizations, or private law firms representing companies or trade associations. Negotiation and drafting skills are critical to an international environmental law practice. An understanding of the major international environmental principles and treaties is essential to this work, as is a solid grounding in public international law, trade law, and domestic environmental law. If you are interested in pursuing a career in international environmental law, contact Professor Chris Wold (wold@lclark.edu; 503-768-6734) for further information.

Take these courses during your second year:

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (3)

PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (3)

Take these courses sometime:

Administrative Law (3)

*CLIMATE CHANGE* (3)

Environmental Law (4)

LEGAL RESEARCH: INTERNATIONAL & FOREIGN (1)

*INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROJECT* (6)

*JESSUP MOOT COURT* (1)

Consider taking one or more of these courses sometime:

INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (3)

*INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS* (2)

*INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW* (2)

## **Focus on International Human Rights Law**

International human rights law involves the protection and promotion of human rights at the international, regional and domestic levels. A human rights lawyer may perform functions including investigating and prosecuting violations of human rights, pursuing civil claims against violators, advocating for changes in the law, counseling or defending victims of human rights abuses, and alerting courts, tribunals, and other decision-makers of the human rights implications of business activity or investment disputes. Forums in which a human rights lawyer may have occasion to argue cases or submit amicus briefs include human rights courts or commissions, the International Court of Justice, investment treaty tribunals, and domestic courts. The field is small but growing, with career opportunities potentially available at human rights organizations, watchdog groups, and NGOs. In addition, some lawyers do human rights work as a discrete component of a more diverse practice. A solid foundation in public international law, human rights law, and international dispute resolution is essential, and students interested in this field would be well-advised to obtain practical experience in litigation and oral advocacy. If you are interested in pursuing a career in international human rights law, contact Professor John Grant (jg@lclark.edu; 503-768-6812) for further information.

Take this course during your second year:

PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (3)

*INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS* (2)

Take these courses sometime:

LEGAL RESEARCH: INTERNATIONAL & FOREIGN (1)

*INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW* (2)

INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (3)

*JESSUP MOOT COURT* (1)

Consider taking one or more of these courses sometime:

Civil Rights Litigation (3)

Criminal Justice: Crime Victims Litigation Clinic (3)

Criminal Justice: Criminal Justice Reform Clinic (3)

*COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW* (3)

*CONFLICT OF LAWS* (3)

*CULTURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION* (2)

Environmental Justice (3)

*IMMIGRATION LAW (3)*

INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (3)

*INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROJECT (6)*

*INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW (2)*

*ISLAMIC LAW & POLITICS (2)*

*LAW OF GLOBAL LABOR MARKETS (3)*

Moot Court: Mock Trial (2)

*RACE & THE LAW (2)*

*TRANSFORMATIVE IMMIGRATION LAW (3)*

*UNREPRESENTED NATIONS & PEOPLES WORKSHOP (1)*